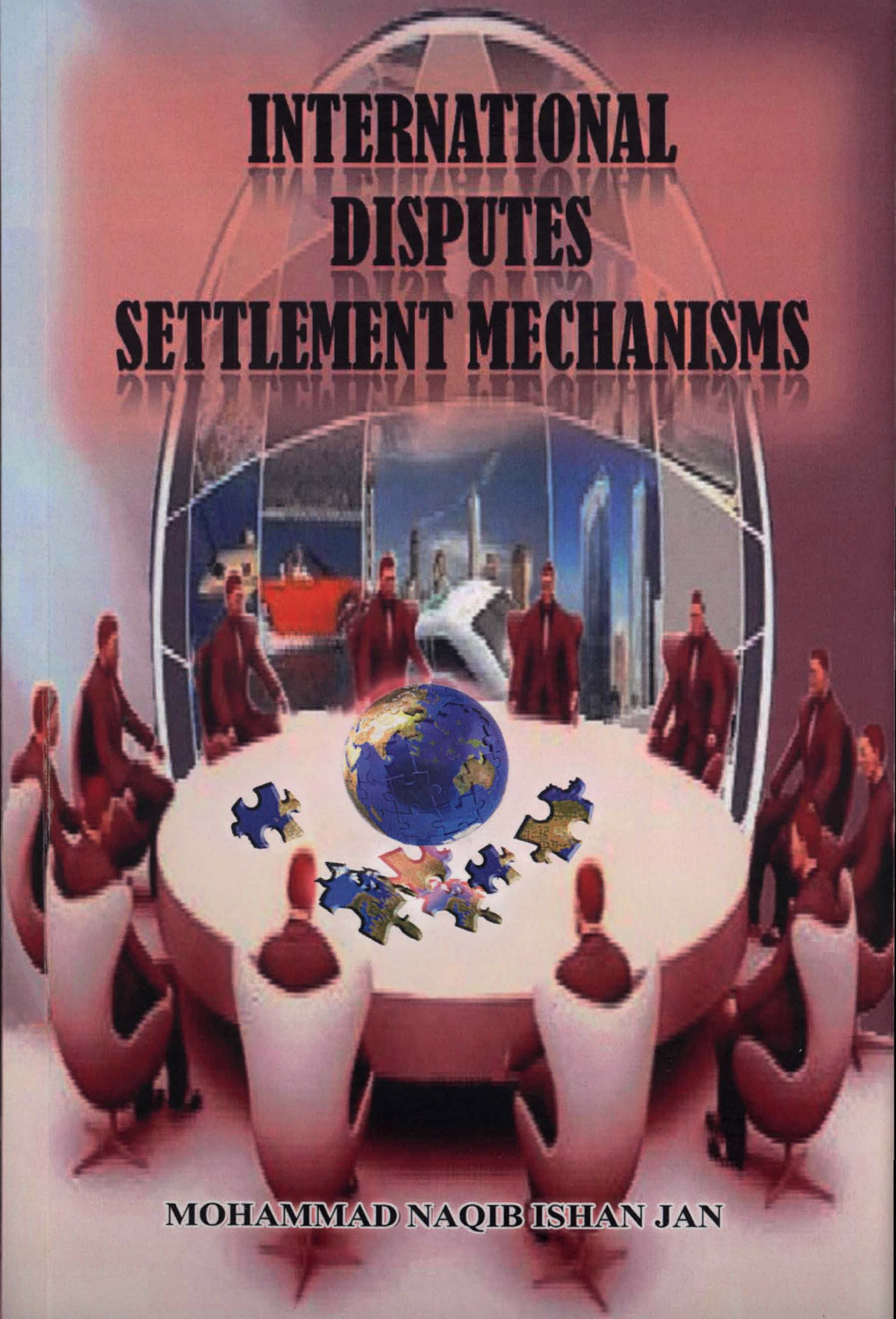


INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES SETTLEMENT MECHANISMS



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IIUM Press

Published by:
IIUM Press
International Islamic University Malaysia

First Edition, 2011
©IIUM Press, IIUM

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Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

Mohammad Naqib Ishan Jan
International Disputes Settlement Mechanism
Include index
Bibliography

ISBN: 978-967-0225-42-5

Member of Majlis Penerbitan Ilmiah Malaysia – MAPIM
(Malaysian Scholarly Publishing Council)

Printed by :
IIUM PRINTING SDN. BHD.
No. 1, Jalan Industri Batu Caves 1/3
Taman Perindustrian Batu Caves
Batu Caves Centre Point
68100 Batu Caves
Selangor Darul Ehsan

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CHAPTER 1

THE CONCEPT OF PACIFIC SETTLEMENT UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW: AN OVERVIEW

by

HUNUD ABIA KADOUF and UMAR A. OSENI***

INTRODUCTION

A dispute may be defined as a disagreement concerning a matter of fact, law or policy in which a claim or assertion of one party is met with refusal, counter-claim or denial by another.¹ In the *Mavrommatis* Case, the Permanent Court of International Justice defined dispute as 'a disagreement on a point of law or fact, a conflict of legal views or interests between two persons.'² As far as the International Law is concerned, the term dispute refers to disagreement between sovereign states or between a sovereign state and an international organization.

Disputes are inevitable occurrence in human life. It has existed since the earliest days of mankind and will last as long as this worldly life continues. In fact, it can be said to be innate and